

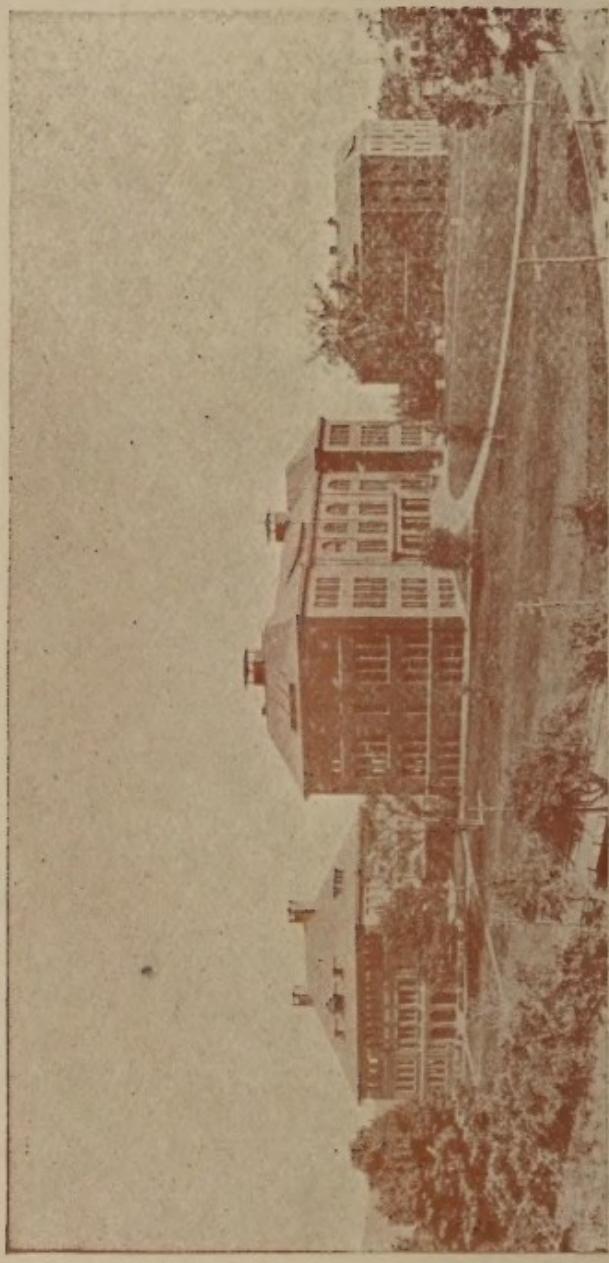
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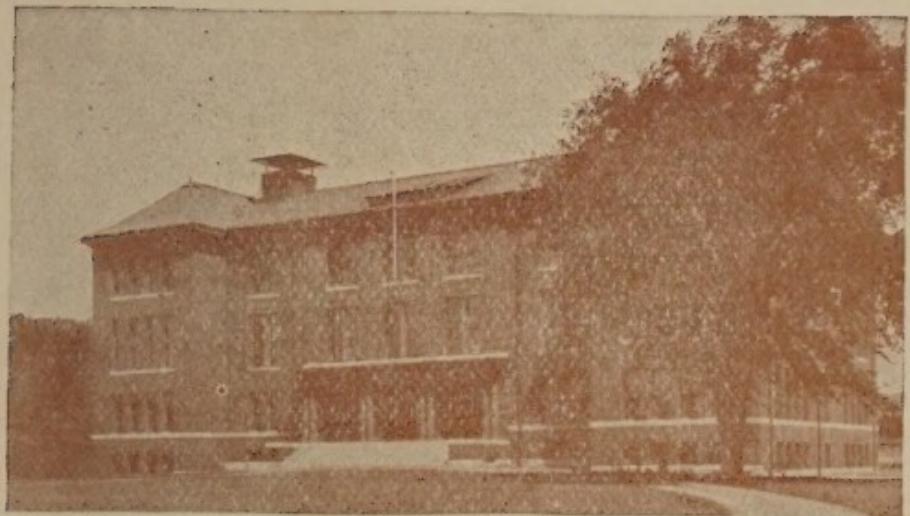
Social Life  
at the  
**Fitchburg State Normal  
School**

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To become one of a group of about three hundred students and teachers, all animated by a common purpose, and representing nearly one hundred towns and cities, in itself alone means a broader social opportunity than most high school graduates enjoy. To win the respect and esteem of all the members of the group and to obtain a worthy place among them in one's own estimation, as well as in that of others, allows full play for the character and personality of every individual, for such an attainment depends not upon scholarship alone.

From the opening of school in September until the closing exercises in June, in addition to the constant daily social contact, there are at regular and frequent intervals more or less formal events. Of these the three receptions are the most formal events. In order these are:-

## **Receptions and Dance**

**RECEPTION TO THE JUNIORS.** This reception is given by the seniors and the faculty and comes shortly after the opening of school in September.

**SENIOR RECEPTION AND DANCE.** This reception is given by the seniors of all courses to their young gentlemen friends and comes in the winter.



**Class Mascot — Class Day.**

**RECEPTION TO GRADUATES.** This reception is given by the faculty and juniors to the graduating classes, their parents and friends, and comes at the end of the school year.

## Commencement Exercises

COMMENCEMENT WEEK IN JUNE is always a season of many social activities. These begin on Saturday with the Ivy EXERCISES of the advanced class and the TREE EXERCISES of the seniors. The marching of different classes on the campus, the display of the school and class colors, the class mascots, the decorating of trees planted by previous classes, the Maypole dances, rolling of hoops, and other traditional forms give great pleasure to the students and their friends, and are imposing and extremely beautiful. Each class seeks to add some novel feature and to outdo its predecessors. Last June at the close of the Ivy exercises, the advanced class gave a Japanese play. This year A Midsummer Night's Dream will be given.

On Sunday before graduation is held the annual "sing out" when students and teachers with their friends meet in the Assembly Hall to sing together for the last time the songs they have enjoyed during their normal school life, and to listen to a short address prepared for the occasion.



Dutch Dance — Class Day.



Court of Ferdinand and Isabella.  
Columbus Day Pageant.

The graduation exercises include musical selections, the reading of a few of the theses (on the preparation of which each pupil spends considerable time during her senior year), and an address by some noted educational leader.

The formal graduation exercises Wednesday are followed by the public reception to the graduates already mentioned, on Thursday evening, and by the Alumni reunion and banquet on Friday evening.



Rolling Hoops — Class Day.  
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## School Parties

Of a less formal nature and therefore perhaps more thoroughly enjoyed are the "parties" in connection with certain annual dates. These parties are planned and directed by the different classes and by different groups selected by the faculty committee on social affairs. They are in order:-

- Harvest party
- Halloween party
- Valentine party
- April First party
- May party



Receiving Line — Mothers' Afternoon.

For the Harvest party, the seniors pick the sweet corn planted in their school gardens the previous spring and hold a corn roast to which the other students and the members of the faculty are invited. The roasting of corn, apples, and marshmallows on the school grounds on a moonlight evening proves a very enjoyable and informal welcome to the new students.



Pandora — Scene from a Play.

The Halloween party with its witches, bobbing apples, elusive doughnuts and interesting mysteries is always a great delight. The unusually occult and "scary" one a few years ago, which closed with a genuine earthquake will always be remembered by all who were fortunate enough to be invited.

The Valentine, April First and May parties are to some even more interesting than the party held on October 31 st.



Dutch Songs — Class Day.

The receptions give to the students opportunity to practice the etiquette of social affairs. These parties add to their experience in events of a less formal character.



Landing of Columbus — Columbus Day Pageant.

A Mock Athletic Meet was added to the parties this year and proved a decided success.



Cotton Pickers — Scene from Pageant — Lincoln Day.



May Pole Dance — Class Day.

## Miller Hall Parties

Should you enter Miller Hall you would feel at once the homelike atmosphere that prevails there. The spacious parlors are used to great advantage. Here the girls assemble after the last meal of the day to sing and enjoy each others company. Here also the initiations take place, but these through the kind heartedness of the seniors, have a delightful ending, in the form of a spread. The open fireplace looks inviting on a cold winter night, and the girls show their appreciation by lingering to toast marshmallows and to tell stories.



"What Restains Me" from Lucia by Donizetti.  
Tableau illustrating Victrola Recital.

The suites, arranged as they are, give the girls an opportunity to use their living room for more than a place of study; and these rooms are the scenes of many a jolly good time. The girl with the mandolin adds to the pleasure of these gatherings.

The welcome box of goodies from home and the generosity that exists here cannot but bring the girls together in good fellowship. There are also frequent chafing dish parties.



Advanced Class with Mascot - Class Day.



Scene from Junior Class Play  
"She Stoops to Conquer."

A committee is appointed to arrange for a social the first Saturday in each month. Special attention is given to this event. After the program has been carried out, the girls gather in the gymnasium to dance.

Within the discretion of the matron, dancing is allowed on other evenings as well.



Scene from "She Stoops to Conquer."

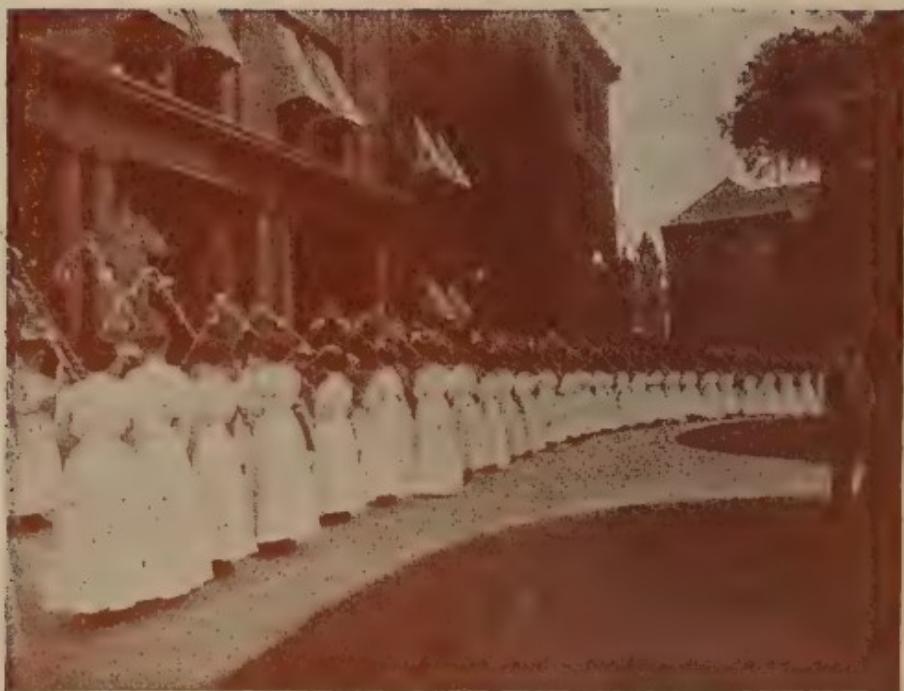
When fair, the Saturday holiday is usually spent out of doors. Parties of girls arranging to stay away for the day, have their luncheon provided by the school. Mount Wachusett and the beautiful neighboring hills are the goals for tramping parties. Many become enthusiastic over tennis in the warmer months, while in winter, skating, sleighing, and coasting parties are of frequent occurrence.



Formation of Class Numerals.

The girls lead a healthful life, staying out of doors as much as possible.

The new girls, the Freshmen, are not forgotten when the Christmas holidays are reached, for it is during this time that the seniors entertain with a play and the well laden Christmas tree is relieved of its so called presents.



Class Day March.

Alice Freeman Palmer, who was for some years a member of the special committee in charge of the Fitchburg normal school, frequently told the students that the life at the boarding hall had as powerful an influence in developing culture, refinement and social efficiency in the individual as the more formal work of the school. Sarah Louise Arnold, recently a member of the same committee, holds similar views.

Life at a school boarding hall means much to many young women.

## Lectures, Concerts, and Recitals

Students at the Fitchburg Normal School have unusual opportunities to broaden their knowledge and culture and to develop their taste for the best in music and art, and these opportunities are afforded usually at no expense. During the current year (1910—1911) the following lectures and entertainments have been open to all Fitchburg Normal School students without charge.



Social Dancing.

School Gardens (illustrated by stereopticon).

—Supt. Wallace E. Mason, North Andover.  
Glimpses of American Schools and Schoolmen (illustrated by stereopticon)

Supt. Bernard M. Sheridan, Lawrence.  
Columbus Day Address—Hon. J. E. McConnell  
Boston.

English Composition—Supt. Stratton D. Brooks,  
Boston.

Address—Dr. David Snedden, Commissioner of  
Education.



### C'ass Day March.

Mutual Obligations of Grammar and High School Teachers — Mr. William Orr, Deputy Commissioner of Education.

The Players — Music, Reading and Sketches.

The Raweis — Pictures, Song and Story (Hawaiian life)



Bringing in the Wassail Bowl — Scene from Pageant, Christmas in Old England'

Ralph Parlette — Humorous Lecture.  
Durno, The Mysterious and Company.  
Regent Entertainment Club.  
The Litchfield Trio.  
Recital — Rip Van Winkle — George Kiernan.



A Fugitive Slave — Scene from Lincoln Day Pageant.

Illustrated Lecture — Evangeline  
— Rev. A. T. Kempton.  
Concert by Nevin Quartette.  
Victrola Recital by Willis B. Anthony.



Bringing in the Boar's Head — Scene from Pageant —  
Merrie Christmas in Old England.

Recital — “The Passing of the Third Floor Back.”  
by Alice Chapman.

The Messiah — Fitchburg Choral Union.

Japanese Life and Customs — Yoshimitsu Suzuki.

World Peace — Lucia Ames Mead.

World Peace through World Union.

—Anna Sturges Duryea.

Some Health Problems in the Schools.

— Dr. Thomas F. Harrington, Director of  
School Hygiene, Boston.



Dutch Dance — Class Day.

Getting into the Game — Dr. Albert E. Winship,  
Boston.

Industrial Education — Mr. Charles A. Prosser,  
Deputy Commissioner of Education

The Teaching of Arithmetic — Supt. John C. Gray  
Chicopee.

Eastern Concert Company — Grand Concert.

Play Clark W. Hetherington.

Lincoln — Rev. Arthur J. Covell.

Address — Margaret M. Slattery.

Memorial Day Address — Hon. Frank Pope.

## Miscellaneous

The three chamber concerts given at Wallace Hall annually by the Kneisel quartette have been open to students of the normal school at a small charge. In order that these concerts may be fully appreciated and understood, the programs are given on the pianola and studied with the teacher of music before each concert. Selections from the standard oratorios and operas are frequently sung at the opening exercises of the school by the best local singers, one singing each morning for a week, to be then succeeded by another for the following week. Among these singers have been:

Grace Sherriffs Chandler.

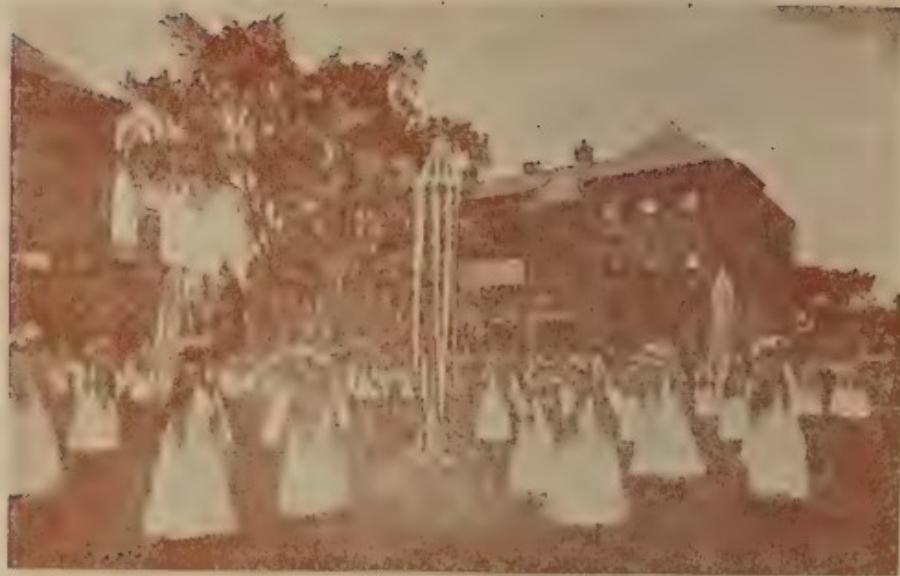
Florence M. Hersom.

Dr. E. H. Page.

Clifton H. Wood.



Assembly Hall  
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### Maypole Dance.

The normal school orchestra has also rendered many selections at the opening exercises. Miss Beatrice Read, a violinist of Fitchburg, also entertained the school each morning for a week.

Historical movements and events, by means of the pageant, are made very real, not only to the spectator, but even more so to those taking part. The following have been given this year:

### Pageants and Dramatics

Columbus and the Discovery of America.  
The World's Progress towards Universal  
Peace.

Merrie Christmas in the England of Queen  
Bess.

Lincoln's First Inauguration - Fiftieth Anniversary.



Procession of the Lord of Misrule — Scene from Pageant — Merrie Christmas in Old England.

The pupils of the Practical Arts school opened the dramatic series on February third by presenting the three Myths - King Midas, Pandora, and Proserpina in dramatic form. Other similar entertainments, including Cranford and She Stoops to Conquer, are to be given during the year by different normal school classes.



Bringing in the Yule Log — Scene from Pageant Christmas in Old England.

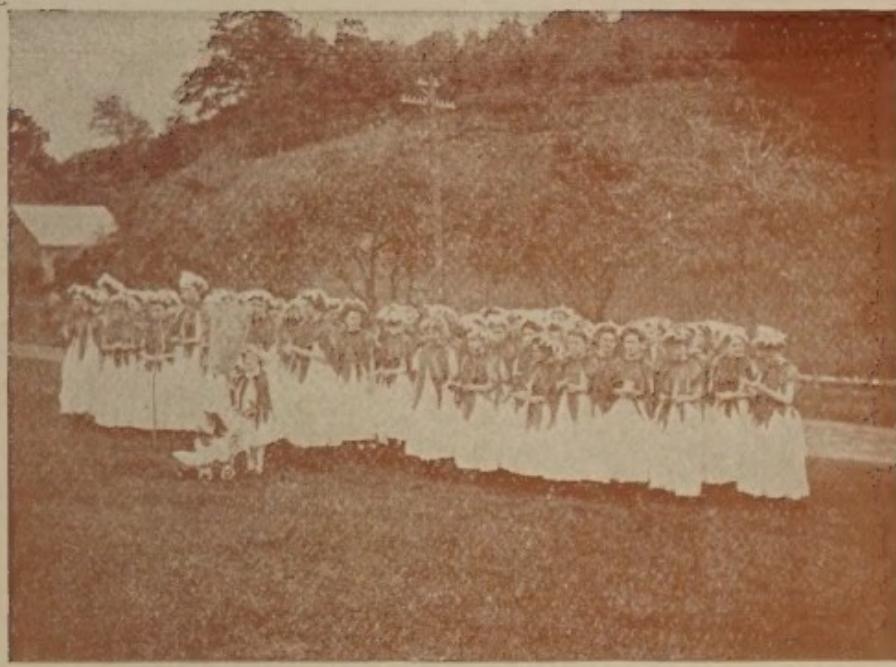
The normal school students assist at meetings of the Kindergarten Mothers' League, at socials and dancing parties arranged for the children of the Practical Arts School, at the social meetings of the parents of the children in the schools of observation and practice, and at faculty suppers and entertainments.

Each student is also given an opportunity during her normal school course to plan and take charge of some school entertainment given by the children of the room in which she teaches for three months. This entertainment may be for Lincoln's or Washington's birthday, for Memorial Day, for Thanksgiving or Christmas, or for the closing exercises of the term.

The normal school students are also invited to the "Parents' Night" entertainments given at frequent intervals by the pupils of the Practical Arts School.



Alumni Banquet.



Class with Mascot.

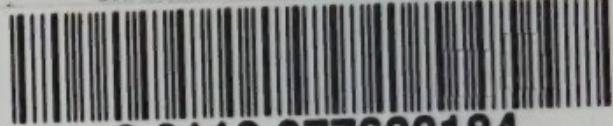
Throughout the course, the aim is to give the normal students many social opportunities, not only that they may fully enjoy school life, but in order that they may be well prepared to meet children, parents and others socially, that they may know how to arrange school entertainments, to plan parents' meetings, to get the most from concerts and lectures, and to exercise social power in any community. The ability of a teacher to make the school a social centre is one of her chief assets and must of necessity enter largely into her preparation for teaching.

For catalogues and circulars, address  
**JOHN G. THOMPSON, Principal.**  
**STATE NORMAL SCHOOL,**  
**FITCHBURG, MASS.**





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